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Amendment No. 1 to HB0189

**Fowlkes
Signature of Sponsor**

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1716

House Bill No. 189*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-2-204, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (e):

(e) In addition to an award of unpaid wages, reasonable attorney fees and the cost of the action authorized by this section, an employer who violates the provisions of this part shall also be liable for such compensatory and punitive damages as may be appropriate.

SECTION 2.

(a) Commencing on the effective date of this act, the Economic Council on Women shall conduct a full and complete study of:

(1) The extent of wage disparities, both in the public and private sector, between men and women, and between minorities and non-minorities.

(2) Those factors which cause, or which tend to cause, such disparities, including segregation of women and men, and of minorities and non-minorities across and within occupations; payment of lower wages for occupations traditionally dominated by women and/or minorities; child-rearing responsibilities; and education and training.

(3) The consequences of such disparities on the economy and families affected.

(4) Actions, including proposed legislation, that are likely to lead to the elimination and prevention of such disparities.

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(b) The council shall, no later than twelve (12) months after commencing its study, make its report to the clerk of each house of the general assembly.

(c) The council's report shall include the results of its study as well as recommendations, legislative and otherwise, for the elimination and prevention of disparities in wages between men and women, and between minorities and non-minorities.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.